

## MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act

- **WHEREAS,** the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law 25 years ago on July 26, 1990; and
- **WHEREAS**, the ADA is one of the country's most comprehensive pieces of civil rights legislation that prohibits discrimination; and
- **WHEREAS,** the ADA guarantees that people with disabilities have the same opportunities as everyone else to participate in the mainstream of American life -- to enjoy employment opportunities, to purchase goods and services, and to participate in state and local government programs and services; and
- **WHEREAS,** the City of Takoma Park has made it a priority to make City sidewalks accessible to all and in recent years has upgraded 68% of existing sidewalks to meet ADA standards; and
- **WHEREAS,** the City has added 12,676 linear feet of sidewalk and invested more than \$1.2 million in new sidewalk design and construction; and
- **WHEREAS,** the City renovated Heffner Playground to meet "super accessible" requirements, enabling children of different ability levels to play and enjoy the space; and
- **WHEREAS,** seven of the City's eight playgrounds have been renovated to meet ADA and playground safety standards and this summer the eighth playground will be renovated (Colby Park); and
- **WHEREAS,** the City of Takoma Park will continue its efforts to make Takoma Park a safe and inclusive community for residents of all abilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK MARYLAND, hereby proclaim the importance of the Americans with Disabilities Act in helping to make Takoma Park a place where all residents can participate in civic life.

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2014

Bruce R. Williams
Mayor